

friction. Therefore, there is no objective reason to conclude that the plastic that is disclosed in Fischer has non-slip characteristics.

Since Fischer does not disclose or suggest all of the features that are recited in claim 2, Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection.

Dependent Claims

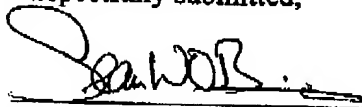
Dependent claim 3 is rejected under §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Fischer. Claim 4 is rejected under §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fischer in view of Saito et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 4 are allowable by virtue their dependence on claim 2. Saito et al., which is cited for its disclosure regarding serrated cleats, does not overcome the above-noted deficiencies in the disclosure Fischer. Further, these claims recite features in addition to those included in claim 2, and are submitted to be patentable in their own right. Further independent consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants request withdrawal of each rejections set forth in the Office Action. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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